

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A domestic carnivore food composition for ~~preventing~~ treating or correcting pigmentation abnormalities and/or improving the quality of the fur, comprising:
  - at least one source of protein of animal or plant origin, and/or
  - at least one source of fatty substances of animal or plant origin, and/or
  - at least one source of carbohydrates, and
  - one source of free tyrosine representing at least 5% by weight of the total tyrosine supplied in the food composition.
2. (Previously Presented) The food composition of claim 1, wherein the free tyrosine level is greater than 10% of the total tyrosine supplied in the food composition.
- 3-5. (Cancelled)
6. (Original) The food composition of claim 1, wherein the domestic carnivore is chosen from cats, dogs, minks, foxes or sables.
- 7-13. (Cancelled)
14. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the amount of free tyrosine is at least 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, or 30% by weight of the total amount of tyrosine in the food composition.
15. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the food composition is a cat food composition.
16. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the food composition is a dog food composition.
17. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the food composition is a mink food composition, a fox food composition, or a sable food composition.

18. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the color of the hair or fur is black.

19. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~14~~ 15, wherein the cat food composition meets the standard of Nutrient Requirements of Cats as published by the National Research Council of the United States of America.

20. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~15~~ 16, wherein the dog food composition meets the standard of Nutrient Requirements of Dogs as published by the National Research Council of the United States of America.

21. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the food composition has a level of amino acids equal to or above acceptable nutritional standards.

22. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the food composition is a nutritionally well-balanced food composition.

23. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~12~~ 1, further comprising a source of bound tyrosine.

24. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~22~~ 23, wherein the bound tyrosine is in the source of protein.

25. (Currently Amended) A domestic carnivore food composition for treating or correcting pigmentation abnormalities and/or improving the quality of the fur, comprising:

- (a) a source of bound tyrosine; and
- (b) a source of free tyrosine, wherein the amount of free tyrosine is at least 5% by weight of the total amount of tyrosine in the food composition.

26. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~24~~ 25, wherein the amount of free tyrosine is at least 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, or 30% by weight of the total amount of tyrosine in the food composition.

27. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~24~~ 25, wherein the food composition is a cat food composition.

28. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~24~~ 25, wherein the food composition is a dog food composition.
29. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~24~~ 25, wherein the food composition is a mink food composition, a fox food composition, or a sable food composition.
30. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~24~~ 25, wherein the color of the hair or fur is black.
31. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~26~~ 27, wherein the cat food composition meets the standard of Nutrient Requirements of Cats as published by the National Research Council of the United States of America.
32. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~27~~ 28, wherein the dog food composition meets the standard of Nutrient Requirements of Dogs as published by the National Research Council of the United States of America.
33. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~24~~ 25, wherein the food composition has a level of amino acids equal to or above acceptable nutritional standards.
34. (Currently Amended) The food composition of claim ~~24~~ 25, wherein the food composition is a nutritionally well-balanced food composition.